

for rollcall votes Nos. 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352 and, 353. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Nos. 346, 352, and 353. I would have voted "no" on Nos. 347, 348, 349, 350, and 351.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO REFORM THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ACT: H.R. 2728, H.R. 2729, H.R. 2730, and H.R. 2731

### HON. CHARLIE NORWOOD

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 15, 2003*

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce four legislative proposals which were each formerly included in H.R. 1583, the "Occupational Safety and Health Fairness Act of 2003."

As was true of H.R. 1583 in its entirety, the goal of each of these individual proposals is to address a unique situation in our law where employers, and especially small employers, are denied fundamental fairness or equitable results in their efforts to defend themselves against citations issued by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) for alleged violations with which, in good faith, they take issue.

Specifically, the "Occupational Safety and Health Small Business Day in Court Act" gives the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission (OSHRC) additional flexibility to make exceptions to the arbitrary 15-day deadline for employers to file responses to OSHA citations when a small business inadvertently misses the deadline by mistake. The "Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission Efficiency Act" increases the membership of the OSHRC from three to five members to ensure that cases are reviewed in a timely fashion. The "Occupational Safety and Health Small Employer Access to Justice Act" permits the award of attorney's fees and costs to small business owners that prevail in court when contesting OSHA citations to ensure that the agency doesn't waste taxpayer resources on fruitless cases. And, the "Occupational Safety and Health Independent Review of Citations Act" restores independent review of citations issued by OSHA by clarifying that the OSHRC is an independent judicial entity that is given deference by courts reviewing OSHA issues.

With this in mind, Mr. Speaker, the Workforce Protections Subcommittee has conducted a hearing on the provisions contained in H.R. 1583, and we firmly believe that a record has been produced that very strongly supports the four individual proposals I introduce today. I have withheld the introduction of several provisions formerly contained in H.R. 1583 because unlike the four proposals I introduce today, I believe further research and discussion would be helpful in determining how to improve these proposals. I invite all Members and especially the Minority Members of this Congress to join in these discussions and help small business achieve the fairness they deserve.

But again, Mr. Speaker, the proposals I introduce today have withstood the inquiry of hearing, and I believe, stand ready for mark-up in their current form. Each is designed to

make what I believe is a narrow, precise, and sensible adjustment for an omission regretfully not caught by Congress at the time of original passage of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970. In my mind, Mr. Speaker, each of these proposals lends itself to bipartisan support, and I ask each of my colleagues on both sides to seriously consider such support.

### BURMESE FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 14, 2003*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this bill.

The 45 million people of Burma have lived in virtual imprisonment for over 40 years, when Burma's military junta first came to power. It has only been in the past 15 years that people around the world have come to learn of this great country, its ruthless and brutal dictators, and its celebrated freedom fighter, Nobel Peace Laureate Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

The Burmese military regime is notorious for its human rights practices. In 1988, the regime, known then as the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), brutally killed thousands of activists in a nonviolent cry for freedom and democracy. In 1990, when the people of Burma voted over 82 percent of the parliamentary seats to the National League for Democracy, Aung San Suu Kyi's party, the junta nullified the elections.

Earlier this year, the State Department condemned Burma's military for using rape as a weapon. Human Rights Watch has documented Burma as having the largest number of child soldiers than anywhere else in the world. The International Labor Organization has repeatedly condemned the military for using forced—or slave—labor.

Three years ago, U.N. Special Envoy Razali Ismail initiated negotiations for a power sharing settlement between the military junta and the NLD. These talks have since collapsed. Burma's military junta has instead shown absolute contempt for the NLD, Aung San Suu Kyi, and the negotiations process. On May 30, 2003, the regime staged a violent attack on Aung San Suu Kyi and her supporters as they traveled in Northern Burma. They have shut down NLD offices, detained dozens of activists, closed universities, and once again imprisoned Daw Suu.

The United States should not respond to Burma's military junta with appeasement, engagement, or tolerance. It is time for the United States to respond with action. The people of Burma have continually called for a non-violent course of action in the form of stronger sanctions, which will directly affect the pockets of the dictators. An import ban, visa ban, and the freezing of assets will not only limit the money propping up the regime, but will also send a message to the people of Burma supporting their hopes for human rights and democracy. In a 1997 speech smuggled out of the country Aung San Suu Kyi said, "Please use your liberty to promote ours." Let us do just that.

OHIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY MARKER TO COMMEMORATE NEW BREMEN AND MIAMI AND ERIE CANAL

### HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 15, 2003*

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, at noon today in New Bremen, Ohio, an Ohio Historical Society marker was dedicated to commemorate New Bremen and the Miami and Erie Canal. I am proud to send my best wishes to everyone celebrating this event.

One hundred seventy years ago, work commenced on a connector between the Miami Canal in Dayton and the Wabash and Erie Canal in Junction. This connector, dubbed the Miami Extension, was completed in June of 1845. In that month, the packet boat *Banner* became the first vessel to travel the canal from Cincinnati to Toledo, taking three days for the journey.

In 1849, the Ohio General Assembly gave the name "Miami and Erie Canal" to the entire system. Even as railroad track was laid throughout western Ohio in the decades to follow, the canal remained an important commercial and military transport route. The Great Flood of 1913, however, washed out many major sections of the Miami and Erie Canal, rendering it impassable and leading to its abandonment.

The Village of New Bremen in my congressional district was founded in 1833, the same year the Miami Extension was started. Many of New Bremen's founders, mostly Hanoverian German Protestants, came to Ohio via the National Road and the Ohio River, landing in Cincinnati. There, they formed the City of Bremen Society and agreed to purchase 80 acres of land in Ohio to found a Protestant community. First called "Bremen," the village's plat was officially recorded on June 11, 1833. New Bremen, the midpoint on the Cincinnati-Toledo segment of the Miami and Erie Canal, is celebrating its 170th birthday this year.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the New Bremen Historic Association and the New Bremen-New Knoxville Rotary Club for their efforts in securing this historical marker from the State of Ohio. I also thank Doug Harrod and Darrin Klinger for their research on New Bremen's history and the importance of the Miami and Erie in our state's past.

### TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM HORNBY

### HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 15, 2003*

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the notable accomplishments of an extraordinary gentleman in the 1st Congressional District of Colorado. It is both fitting and proper that we recognize this individual for his exceptional record of civic leadership and invaluable service. It is to commend this outstanding citizen that I rise to honor William Hornby on the occasion of his 80th birthday.

Bill Hornby has devoted much of his time, skill and energy to making Denver and the West a better place. Born in Kalispell, Montana on July 14, 1923, he attended the public